

learned from Colorado is that an effective RES, a real RES, can unleash the American entrepreneurial spirit.

I believe it is our job in the Senate to pursue these sorts of forward-looking policies that will help America seize and lead this growing market. Again, I want to urge my colleagues to support the strongest possible RES in any energy legislation that is brought to the floor this year.

I have alluded to the hesitation that some of my colleagues have felt about a robust RES. I saw that in Colorado firsthand for many years. It is tempting to dip your toe in the water when it comes to renewable energy. But make no mistake, we are in a race against foreign competitors, and we are being left behind. The Presiding Officer and I recently returned from China where we discussed clean energy issues with American businesses located there. And China, we found out, will soon be the owners of the largest wind and solar-powered facilities. They are pursuing renewable energy and clean energy technology so ambitiously, not because they necessarily want to save the planet, but because it makes good business and economic sense.

This week, we heard that China's energy use has surpassed ours for the very first time. But I have to tell you, in my opinion from what I read and hear, they are taking more bold action to address their growing demand than we are. Then they also announced last week that they are considering plans to invest \$738 billion over the next 10 years in clean energy development. That is nearly the entire size of our Recovery Act that we put in place last year in the United States. Just imagine, their economy is using a comparable amount of energy, but they take clean energy so seriously that they plan to invest a stimulus-size amount of money solely in renewables. I saw it firsthand. And to use a well-worn term, they are about ready to eat our lunch when it comes to clean energy.

I do not want to miss this historic opportunity to implement a strong RES, so let me take a few more minutes to explain what standard I believe we must meet. I want to put a chart up here to show what different levels of percentages would mean for job creation. When you set a standard, you want to set it at a level you can be proud of and one that would spur innovation and the creativity to achieve it.

Senator TOM UDALL and I filed a bill last year in the Senate which had previously passed in the House, where we served, mandating an RES of 25 percent of renewable electricity by 2025. That is this side of the chart here. Senator DORGAN has recommended a similarly aggressive standard.

Why is it important to aim for these ambitious levels? Well, looking again at the chart, if we were to invest wisely in a robust RES, a recent Navigant report estimates that the U.S. economy could add nearly 275,000 jobs.

These are excellent paying jobs. They cannot be outsourced, and they support this concept of energy independence.

I cannot think of a better deal than this for Americans. Make no mistake about it, our country must have an all-of-the-above energy policy. Conservation and energy efficiency efforts are the quickest way to reduce energy demand today. Nuclear energy and natural gas can and should fill a larger share of our energy portfolio as they both are cleaner fuels.

In addition, we all know that America is going to be dependent on fossil fuels for years to come, so all of those have to be in our energy mix. We have to acknowledge those facts in order to embrace 21st century solutions. But when you look at the future demands for clean energy and economic opportunities ahead of us, renewable energy holds the greatest promise.

The more homegrown renewable energy we can produce, the less money we need to spend buying oil from foreign nations that wish to do us harm or do not agree with our principles or values. I do not think anyone—I hope—I do think not anyone in this Chamber can argue with the proposition that we should be moving aggressively toward energy independence.

As I begin to close, it is time we make a concerted national effort to reclaim our position at the front of the pack. Many of the technologies that the Chinese are utilizing, the Europeans are utilizing, and other nations around the world, we developed in the 1970s and 1980s. But we have got to get back to the front of the parade, where we harness the wind and the Sun and other renewable resources here in America and we put Americans to work developing, building, and leading the clean energy revolution.

I urge and ask my colleagues to work with Senator DORGAN, Senator UDALL of New Mexico, and me and the many others who have joined us in this effort to have a strong renewable electricity standard. With all humility, let's follow Colorado's successful example, and let's adopt a clean energy policy that drives innovation, inspires entrepreneurs, and delivers commonsense American solutions to meet our 21st century energy challenges.

I want to close on a final note. I wanted to acknowledge that a wonderful young man, my energy fellow, Kelly Knutsen, who is in the Chamber right now, is leaving my office to join the office of Senator REED of Rhode Island as a legislative assistant. I wish to thank him for his work in my office, especially for his help on several bills I introduced this year, including my SUN Act and my E-Know bill. Although we will miss him, I know Kelly will be a very strong asset for Senator REED and Senator REED's focus on energy policy as well.

I yield the floor, and I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mrs. HAGAN. I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. UDALL of Colorado). Without objection, it is so ordered.

#### MORNING BUSINESS

Mrs. HAGAN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to a period of morning business, with Senators permitted to speak for up to 10 minutes each.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

#### REMEMBERING CLARENCE WOLF GUTS

Mr. JOHNSON. Mr. President, today I pay tribute to Clarence Wolf Guts who passed away on June 16, 2010, at the South Dakota State Veterans Home at the age of 86. Clarence was the last surviving Lakota Code Talker. Code talkers played a crucial role in World War II in communicating positions and messages that the enemies could not decipher. Their contributions to the war effort are immeasurable. Clarence enlisted in the Army at age 18 and was the personal code talker for MG Paul Mueller, commander of the U.S. Army's 81st Infantry. He traveled with General Mueller and the 81st as the division moved from island to island during the fight against the Japanese during World War II.

Clarence did not seek the limelight; he simply served his Nation honorably. In later years, Clarence became a spokesman among tribal elders and traditional leaders about the importance of keeping Native languages alive for future generations. He was very proud to be a veteran, a full-blooded Lakota, and a Lakota speaker.

I had the pleasure of meeting Clarence at a ceremony honoring him in 2006 on Capitol Hill. Clarence is one of many South Dakotans who make us proud with their service to our Nation. Our nation owes him a debt of gratitude, and the best way to honor his life is to emulate his commitment to our country. Mr. President, I join with all South Dakotans in expressing my deepest sympathy to the family of Clarence Wolf Guts. He will be missed, but his service to our Nation will never be forgotten.

#### ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

##### TRIBUTE TO ROSE (PENNY) PENN ROSS

• Mr. BOND. Mr. President, today I wish to thank Rose Penn Ross for her dedicated service to our Nation during World War II. Mrs. Ross, or Penny as she is called, is a retired school teacher who selflessly answered the patriotic